



Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

Vol. 41, No. 3

'Courteous Vigilance'

May/June 2007

10 years of paying tribute

Family, friends, DPS employees and other supporters gathered outside the Department's headquarters building in Phoenix on May 7 to formally honor and remember the 27 DPS officers killed in the line of duty. This year marked the 10th anniversary of the event.



\$1.6 million in renovations provides more workable home for IT

After a complete renovation, the 53 employees of the Department's Information Technology Bureau can now enjoy the finished improvements to their workplace.

While tile on the first floor remains and still sports the original Highway Patrol seal near the east entrance to the building on 20th avenue in Phoenix, nearly everything else has been improved or replaced.

Overall, the renovation project, which began on Sept. 5, 2006, totaled more than \$1.6 million in improvements.

DPS Facilities Coordinator Rand Bruder said, "About \$1.3 million of that money was secured through a RICO grant. The rest was given to us by the Criminal Justice Support Division."

While the project began last September, the concept and desire for these renovations had been many years in the making.

Criminal Justice Support Division Chief Georgene Ramming said, "There has been a desire to renovate that building ever since the headquarters building was constructed."

She added that the wheels on this project really got turning thanks to the leadership of Director Roger Vanderpool.

The two floors that house the vast majority of the Department's IT employees now have uniform layouts to provide a more accessible workspace than what workers had before.

Each floor now has a center of high-wall cubicles with uniform furniture.

It is a simple and efficient rectangular concept that was nowhere to be found in building's previous layout, Bruder explained. DPS Information Services Manager Sharon Wilson said, "We had very enclosed pockets of little offices that were not uniform in any way, shape or form. Moreover, there weren't connections or outlets that could suffice."

Bruder, who came up with the initial floor design that was later modified to meet the recommendations of other IT heads such as Wilson, likened the previous layout to a maze.

In addition to the new cubicles, however, the money also allowed for the replacement of the ceilings and lighting, both of which had become dark and dreary over the years.

Other major improvements included the

following: a new elevator, complete replacement of the air conditioning system, new carpet, the bathrooms were totally revamped, the stairwells were improved to meet new safety standards and the break room was outfitted with new furniture and cabinets.

"Pretty much everything but the IT employees, themselves, has been replaced in that building," Ramming added.

In order to best accommodate these renovations, however, IT employees had to relocate while the improvements were made.

In 2006, IT moved to Encanto Plaza located just west of the headquarters building on 22nd avenue.

Wilson said of the makeshift facilities, "Everyone just kind of plugged into where they felt they were going to be able to work most effectively."

In January, employees began moving back into the building, which once served as the headquarters for Highway Patrol.

The bathrooms, one of the final renovations, were completed on June 6.

Bruder said, "Save for a few touch ups here and there, every improvement has now been completed."

**From Director
Roger L. Vanderpool's
*Vantage Point***



"To protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, ensuring highway and public safety, and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies."

Undoubtedly, we have all seen and read our mission statement, some more than others.

Occasionally, the verbiage receives a facelift, but its overall directive to protect human life and property has pretty much remained the same throughout our 76-year history. Maybe that's a key factor why our mission statement doesn't receive as much attention as it should.

Nowhere within this statement, however, is it written that in order to carry out these mandates, the possibility exists that public servants, such as our officers, could possibly pay the ultimate sacrifice and lose their lives in service to others.

During our officers' memorial service in early May, we were all painfully reminded about how dangerous a public servant's job can be. In our history, we unfortunately have lost 27 officers, and I am certain the anguish of losing each colleague remains within us and especially within the respective families of these fallen officers.

Then in June, the somber message of just how dangerous public safety can be was reinforced when nine South Carolina firefighters lost their lives after entering a flame-engulfed furniture store to ensure no one was left behind. Shortly after entering the building, the roof collapsed leaving the nine within the deadly grasp of a horrific inferno.

Although these nine courageous firefighters died while trying to protect human life and property, they entered that structure bravely and without hesitation. Those of us in public safety should be proud of these firefighters and their resolve. Our thoughts and prayers should go out to the families and friends of these heroes during these sorrowful and difficult times.

There's no doubt that each of these firefighters felt they were only doing their jobs, their mission statement simplified.

Too often, many assume our mission statement is nothing more than management rhetoric. To those public servants who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, including those within our Department, and to their families and friends, it's much more than that.

Although it may not be of much comfort, those left behind should be more than proud of their heroes.

***For the record*
Approved FY 2008 budget**

On June 25, Gov. Janet Napolitano signed a series of bills to enact the state's fiscal year 2008 (FY 2008) budget, which runs from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Here are a number of the key DPS funding increases contained in the budget:

- **General Salary Adjustment** – Most state employees will receive a 3 percent base salary increase, effective July 1. In addition, performance pay will increase by 0.25 percent to a total of 2.75 percent.
- **Sworn Salary Adjustments** – The budget provides \$2,672,900 for sworn salary adjustments.
- **Health Insurance** – The budget provides funding for the State to fully absorb an expected increase of about 9 percent in the cost of health insurance.
- **Employee Retirement Contributions** – Employee contribution rates for the Arizona State Retirement System (civilians) will increase by 0.5 percent.
- **Employer Retirement Contributions** – The budget funds employer contribution rate increases of 0.5 percent for the Arizona State Retirement System and 3.6 percent for the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System.
- **GIITEM** – Task force funding will increase by \$2.5 million to help fill already existing DPS positions. The budget loosens restrictions on positions to allow for the hiring of some civilians.
- **Criminal Justice Services Personnel** – DPS will receive 11 new criminal justice support personnel for fingerprint processing, access integrity and criminal history records.
- **Crime Lab Staffing** – DPS will receive \$1,219,500 for 10 new positions.
- **DNA Database Expansion** – Increases the surcharge on fines and penalties by 4 percent through December 2011, decreasing to 3 percent in January 2012, to fund the increase of DNA profiling of felony arrestees and some misdemeanor arrestees.
- **Design Interoperable Communications System** – The Legislature states its intent for the Department to use \$2.2 million in already set aside asset forfeiture monies to fund the design of a statewide interoperable public safety communications system through the Public Safety Communications Commission.

Please contact DPS Comptroller Phil Case at (602) 223-2463 or pcase@azdps.gov if you have any questions on the budget.

The Digest is published monthly by the DPS Community Outreach and Education Program for DPS employees and retirees.

Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail (mail drop 3350), EMS or Telephone (602-223-2545).

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The Digest can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>.

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DPS welcomes new HR bureau manager, Pamela Christofferson

by Art Coughanour
Retired Publications Editor

When Pamela Christofferson arrived at DPS in mid March as the Department's new human resources manager, she didn't experience much of a "honeymoon" period while acclimating herself with her new work environment.

Ignoring the traditional "honeymoon" scene was by choice as Christofferson more than understood that the Department needed to get rolling on several pressing challenges, especially when it came to issues addressing the sworn recruiting and civilian selection processes.

So in her first month on the job, little time was wasted as Christofferson, the Department's first civilian HR manager in about 20 years, initialized a series of meetings with personnel assigned to the Human Resources Section.

"When I first started working at DPS on March 12, the very first thing I did was to meet individually with every single member of my staff," said Christofferson, who has more than 20 years of experience as a human resources manager on the state and county levels. "Basically, I asked staff members what was working, what was not. I asked for recommendations, suggestions and ideas. I wanted to know what they thought our priorities should be and how they felt about the general operation in Human Resources."

During these meetings, Christofferson learned that she had a highly-educated staff.

"So, besides our everyday responsibilities, I plan to spend considerable time providing additional training to my staff, especially in areas concerning human resource management," she remarked.

As for tackling current issues involving the sworn selection process, she recognized the problem that the Department wasn't meeting its goal of placing 20 officers in the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA) every other month.

To Christofferson, achieving this mark is paramount.

"We weren't meeting this goal and hadn't been for quite some time," Christofferson revealed. "In evaluating the sworn recruiting process, it was obvious that we could successfully meet this goal if we changed how we conducted business."

An initial step she took was to drop the linear concept of moving officer candidates



Pamela's career path to DPS

Pamela Christofferson, the Department's newest Human Resources Bureau manager, began her civil service career in 1986 as a human resources analyst with the Arizona Department of Administration. Three years later, she became human resources manager at the Arizona Game and Fish Department, remaining in that position for nearly 14 years. In 2002, Christofferson, who holds a bachelor of science degree in business management from the University of Phoenix, left Game and Fish to accept a bureau chief-level position within the Support Services Division at the Arizona Department of Corrections. In that capacity, she managed a staff of some 100 people who were assigned various responsibilities within her bureau, which included Human Resources. Nearly three years later, she departed DOC to become human resources manager with the Maricopa County Human Resources Department. She was there briefly before accepting her position as human resources manager at DPS, the first civilian employee to hold this position since the mid 1980s when the post was occupied by Len Perinetti. The Ohio native is married to Ron Christofferson, a certified wildlife biologist who serves as boating facilities manager with the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

through the hiring process in favor of an overlapping process.

"In a linear process, a candidate goes through a regimented series of steps before becoming a cadet in our academy," she explained. "Previously, all processes were conducted step by step. For instance, a candidate could go through a polygraph, which could take about 10 days, and if the polygraph came back satisfactorily, the candidate then would be scheduled for a background, physical and psychiatric.

"Theoretically a linear process could begin in November and you would still be having appointments well into June because of doing things one step at a time. We are now overlapping the process. When a candidate arrives at DPS, this person is scheduled for a polygraph, psych and background check immediately. Overlapping expedites

the process considerably."

Christofferson said Human Resources initiated the new process April 19 and within a month, 77 candidates were "in process."

"By the end of May, we expected to have the bulk of these candidates completely tested, processed and ready for ALEA," she added.

Along with initiating changes in the processing procedures, Christofferson began meeting with other internal "critical customers," namely staff members from the Director's Office and each of the four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support.

"Again, I asked what was working, what wasn't, what they needed and wanted so that

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Christofferson ...

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I could integrate those requirements into the HR redesign process," explained Christofferson, a University of Phoenix graduate who attended grade schools in Arizona and high school in California.

Almost immediately, the Highway Patrol informed Christofferson that the recruitment of sworn officers was a critical need.

"They told me to recruit as many officer candidates as I possibly could," she said. "I then went to Phil Case (DPS comptroller) and asked how many could the Department afford. At the same time, I suggested that 170 new officer candidates would be our target number."

Not only was 170 considered the bulls-eye, Christofferson wanted to have the processing completed by July.

To help accomplish this ambition, Christofferson de-

veloped plans to send a 10-member team to Michigan. "We went to Michigan in April and tested 78 candidates," she revealed. "We came away with 48 candidates.

Why Michigan?

Responding, Christofferson said the Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio areas are high automobile manufacturing areas with high unemployment rates.

"Originally, we were going to go in June, but we went in April after learning that the Michigan State Police is also laying off officers," she further explained. "What was unique about our Michigan recruiting effort is that while we were there, we actually conducted physical fitness tests, oral boards and written tests."

In mid May, Christofferson said plans were being developed for another Michigan trip, possibly in June. There are also tentative plans this fall for recruiting trips to Boston and New York City where the Human Resources manager says there are more certified law enforcement officers than there are law enforcement jobs.

In this recruitment effort, Christofferson said Arizona hasn't been forgotten.

"We will continue to recruit Arizona extensively," she replied. "We will have tests

in Tucson, Flagstaff and Phoenix during the remainder of this year. There will be tests somewhere in Arizona each month. My goal is by the end of the year to have people ask me either to stop hiring or slow down."

As for sworn officers, Christofferson understands there are 20 slots open at ALEA every other month. She intends to have her staff to provide more than enough qualified officer cadet candidates for each academy.

"We have permission, even if we fill the academy, to bring officer candidates aboard and place them on the payroll. The Highway Patrol said they will give the cadets meaningful productive work while prepping them for the academy. We just need to get them

compensation system to see how it relates to how we are doing job announcements/recruiting. The consultant also will examine our performance appraisal procedures and then offer recommendations on how we can improve within Human Resources."

Classification/compensation issues at DPS has also drawn Christofferson's attention.

"Over the years, sworn officers have received meaningful increases in compensation, but on the civilian side, there are compensation issues that need addressing," she contends. "Reviewing our classification/compensation system will be a long-term arduous task that everyone knows is very important to this agency.

"We are confident that the consultants will ultimately deliver proposals for the redesign of our classification/compensation system, and hopefully at the same time, we will be able to develop a better at-market compensation strategy for the De-

There are also tentative plans this fall for recruiting trips to Boston and New York City where the Human Resources manager says there are more certified law enforcement officers than there are law enforcement jobs.

partment."

As for three to five years down the road for HR, much of the future rests in the hands of the governor's office and the state legislature.

"Currently, we have about 2,100 employees at DPS," Christofferson said. "Within the Human Resources Section we have 24 analysts or staff members, counting two unfilled positions. We are hoping to get legislative approval for two to four additional background investigator positions along with another polygraph examiner.

"We are always asking for additional positions, but growth will be somewhat dependent on what additional responsibilities will be placed on this agency. Over the years, the Department has grown as our responsibilities have increased. Such increased responsibilities wouldn't have occurred if it wasn't for our reputation of delivering. I don't see this changing down the road."

If such is the case, Christofferson understands that Human Resources will play a significant role in bringing people aboard who are qualified and capable of aiding the Department in its continuous quest for excellence. It's a challenge she willingly accepts and expects to meet.

Christofferson added that she is generating a proposal for a consulting firm to review and appraise efforts within DPS Human Resources.

"The consultant will analyze our current classification system while reviewing our

through the proverbial DPS door."

Along with the recruiting of sworn officers, Christofferson also is tinkering with civilian testing and selection processes currently in place at DPS.

"We need improvements in documenting processes. We also have to develop technical manuals for those analysts who work in HR," she said. "Additionally, we need to analyze our processes for maximum efficiency and to make certain we are operating in a manner that we should."

Along these lines, Christofferson said she has brought aboard a provisional employee - Richard Rico - to assist in addressing issues confronting Human Resources.

"Richard will be here only for a couple of months," Christofferson explained. "He will work directly for me and essentially will be facilitating the Sworn Recruitment Team and the Civilian Testing and Selection Team in redesigning respective processes within those two areas."

Four DPS Lieutenants graduate from Northwestern University

On March 30, DPS Lts. Dansen Coleman, Ron DeLong, Jeffrey King and Robert Ticer graduated from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

This 10-week school was hosted by the Gilbert Police Department. During the program, the lieutenants and 23 other law enforcement leaders from Arizona, North Dakota and Colorado studied management theories, leadership, current issues in law enforcement and traffic enforcement, human resources administration, planning and analysis and resource allocation.

Law enforcement leaders from throughout the United States traveled to Gilbert as adjunct instructors to teach the blocks of instruction.

A requirement for the program was the development of a staff study.

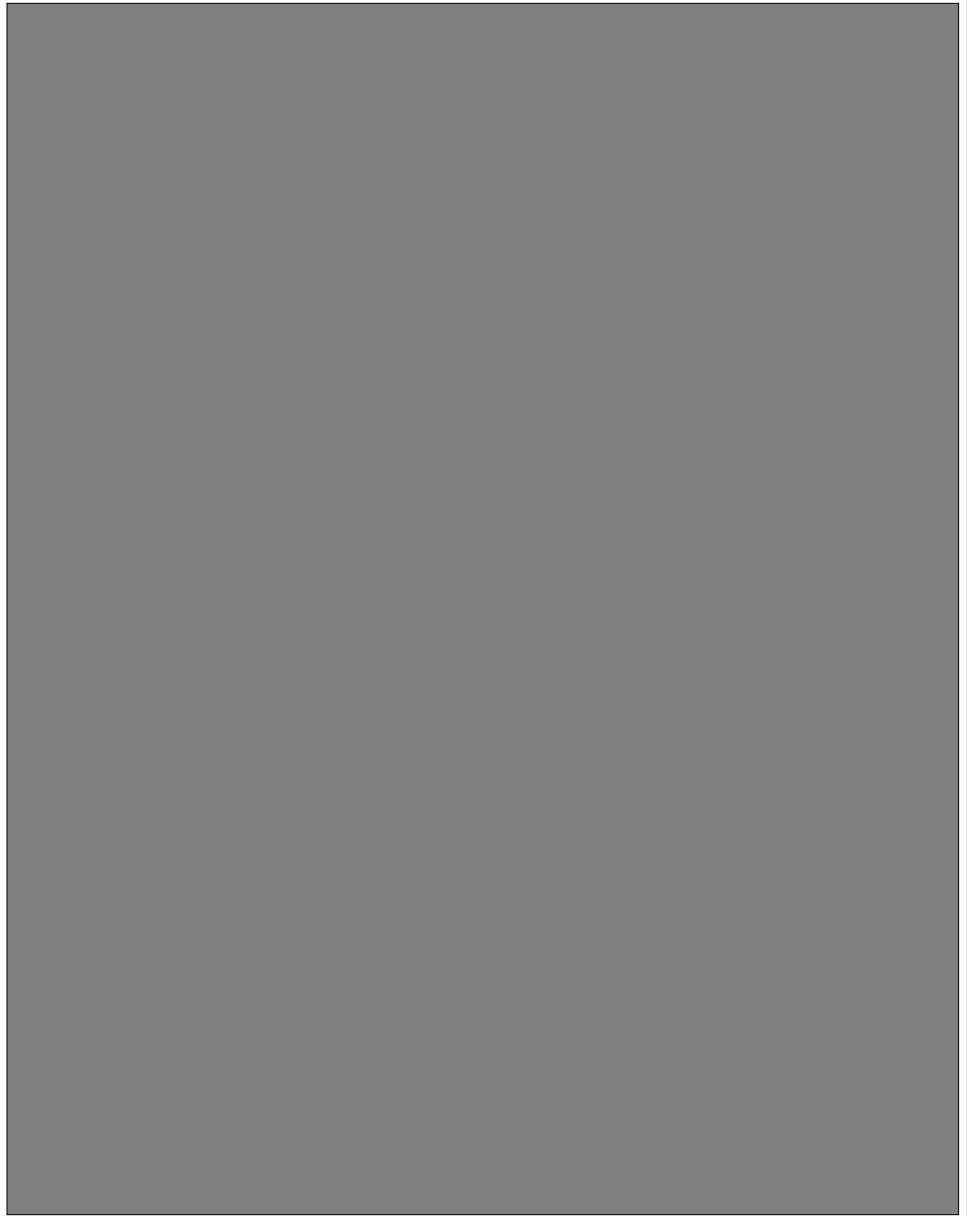
Each lieutenant researched, wrote and presented an intensive staff study on a topic applicable to today's law-enforcement environment.

Coleman prepared a report on, "Reducing Fire Related Crashes Involving Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors without Factory Fire Suppression."

King wrote his report on, "Reduction of Investigation Time during Collision Related Road Closures."

DeLong wrote, "Feasibility of Photo Radar Applications on Rural Highways."

Ticer, who also served as class president, prepared his research on, "A CompStat Approach to Reducing Traffic Fatalities and Injury-Related Collisions within the Jurisdiction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety."



Detectives from DPS authorized to enforce federal immigration law

Ten detectives from the immigration sector of the Arizona Department of Public Safety's State Gang Task Force were given authorization, May 8, to enforce federal immigration law.

The officers received the unique authorization following their May 8 graduation from a rigorous training program administered by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The graduation ceremony, held at DPS' headquarters building in Phoenix, marked the officers' successful completion of five weeks of training focusing on immigration law, civil rights, and intercultural relations.

In addition to the DPS detectives, the

latest group of cross-trained law enforcement personnel graduating on May 8 included 10 corrections officers from the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC) and two deputies from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

"I appreciate the continued commitment from all three of these Arizona law enforcement agencies to work together in our shared homeland security mission," said Julie L. Myers, Department of Homeland Security assistant secretary for ICE.

"I am particularly pleased that our newest partner, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, will use these new immigration enforcement tools to help us target gangs. Not

only are many gang members in the U.S. in violation of our immigration laws, they pose a significant threat to the safety of our communities."

"The training our officers received is part of Governor Napolitano's 'Secure Arizona Initiative'," said Roger Vanderpool, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety. "To that end, the Arizona Department of Public Safety continues to pursue organizations that profit from and contribute to both human and drug smuggling."

"Arizona has realized phenomenal savings as a result of this partnership," said

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DPS helps seize more than \$1 million hidden in a spare tire

On June 18, DPS officers helped in the seizure of \$1,011,000 out of the spare tire of a commercial vehicle that had been stopped for inspection at the Sanders Point of Entry on Interstate 40.

The commercial truck pulled into the Sanders point of Entry at around 6:45 a.m. and was hauling a load of produce and required inspection by the Arizona Department of Agriculture (ADA).

Sgt. Steve Enteman said ADA is stationed at that particular point of entry full time and examines any loads that contain produce.

The Plant Services Division of the ADA conducted the inspection of the load, which consisted of watermelons and onions.

The inspectors identified several characteristics about the load that made them suspicious about the three people traveling with the truck.

For one, the watermelons were rotting. The occupants were also carrying the load on a trip from the east coast all the way to Tucson, which Enteman said made no sense at all.

Moreover, as the ADA inspectors individually interviewed the three occupants, the male driver and male and female passengers, they found numerous inconsistencies in each person's story concerning the origin of the load and the nature of its destination.

Enteman said, "These ADA inspectors are not sworn, but they've been through enough training to know something was not right about the situation."

The inspectors also noticed a brand-new spare tire that had an unusually large padlock on it.

Compared to the everyday pad locks that inspectors normally see, there was something unusual about this particular spare tire.

After going as far as they could with the initial investigation, ADA called officers with the Enforcement Section of the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to interview the driver and to perform a full inspection on the vehicle.

Upon inspection, the MVD officers discovered that the insurance on the truck was expired.

After completing a level 1 inspection of the load, MVD also found violations with the driver, the tractor, a 1997 Peterbilt and the trailer, a 1994 Box Trailer, and put all three out of service.



Cash found in a spare tire

The cash above should provide some explanation as to why the spare tire it was stowed in weighed so much more than the other tires on the truck. The final dollar amount came to just over \$1 million in cash. DPS officers aided the Arizona Department of Agriculture and the Motor Vehicle Division in the seizure.

MVD then requested the services of DPS to conduct its own investigation of the truck as well as to conduct its own interviews of the driver and passengers.

After questioning the driver and passengers further, DPS officer obtained permission to search the load. This allowed the officers to look more closely at the suspicious spare tire.

The spare tire turned out to be much heavier than a normal spare tire, and DPS used the help of a local-area towing company to move the tire.

Moments later, after removing the rubber from the wheel, everyone's suspicious were validated.

The officers discovered that beneath the tread of the tire was \$1,011,000 in cash.

DPS seized the money and took the three passengers into custody.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has assumed control of the investigation.

Early indications have led investigators to believe that this money was seized from an illegally conducted enterprise and the shipment was headed back to the criminal organization.

Both the truck-tractor and the box trailer were registered to JCLL Trucking out of Kansas.

This same company was connected with a large marijuana load, that was seized last year.

The driver and the two passengers were released shortly after they were taken into custody.

The investigation to come will determine if any formal charges will be pressed against any of the three.

Aviation Unit aides highway enforcement with patrol program

In 1980, the Arizona Department of Public Safety was awarded a Cessna 182 airplane through federal funds in order to help enforce the then highway speed limit of 55 mph.

As the years progressed, laws changed, including "federal-55," and speed-enforcement details through the air became less of a priority for the Department.

DPS Pilot Andy Dobis said, "We kept the plane but only did speed details from time to time due to staffing restrictions."

Much has changed within the past year, however.

The Aviation Unit is finally at full staff and as a result will be looking to expand the role of what they call the "aerial patrol car."

The Cessna 182 plane has four seats, sports a 230-horsepower engine, "state patrol" decals on the wings, DPS on the tail and the same DPS star that adorns each ground patrol vehicle.

Equipped with a scanner, a specialized airborne police radio, a 200-watt public address system and an airborne form of VASCAR, the plane has many more capabilities than a normal Cessna 182.

"We'll patrol anywhere, and are able to cover the whole state. Generally on a patrol flight, the airplane flies below 1,000 feet above ground level, so it can safely fly over the highway or the interstate," Dobis

said.

Through the plane's radio capabilities, pilots and officers inside the Cessna 182 are able to talk directly to dispatch as well as car to car with officers on the highway.

This program is not meant to take officers off of the roads, however.

In a matter of speaking, any officer who patrols from the air will be doing just that; air patrol rather than ground patrol.

Dobis said, "We're looking for anything a patrol car would look for, we just use the airborne advantage."

From the air, the planes are able to see over cliffs and around bends much more easily than an officer would be able to from a patrol car.

If a plane is called out, at an average speed of 166 mph, it can get to a site in half the time of a normal patrol car.

"The airplane can fly a straight line and avoid all the traffic and all the curves and get there much faster than a patrol officer can drive," Dobis said.

In addition, the program is not limited to any one part of the state.

Dobis said, "We can do patrols in any part of the state because we can fly in or out of any of the over 80 publicly used airports in the state."

In order to get permission to participate



Patrol from above

DPS' Cessna 182 airplane flies over a highway from the skies during a routine patrol flight May 30.

in a flight, officers need approval from their supervisor and schedule an appointment with aviation.

Dobis said he does not know how many flights will take place during a given month.

It all depends on how well the program is received and utilized, he explained.

Employees can help reduce the impact e-mail SPAM has on DPS

by Sloane Burwell

DPS Lotus Notes Administrator

SPAM, and not the kind that come in a can, is unsolicited e-mail. Typically, the sender is trying to sell something, usually illegal or at least unscrupulous. SPAM can even contain pornographic images and language. It is also not uncommon for these SPAM e-mails to contain a computer virus, and the new type of virus they deliver can turn your own computer into a spamming machine. This new type of virus is called a ZOMBIE, and when there is a zombie sending out e-mail, it can take down our whole network.

Spammers work all of the time, and they can make a lot of money by sending out these annoying and potentially harmful e-mails. At DPS, on a typical weekend, 80 percent of all incoming Internet mail is currently being blocked as spam. Thankfully, there are things we can do to reduce the amount of spam we receive.

1. Stop forwarding jokes, chain letters and other unnecessary e-mails. Not only does this cost DPS money, this is one way that spammers get e-mail addresses. If you get an email that says 'forward this to 10 friends or good/bad things will happen' you can guarantee someone is using that e-mail to harvest your e-mail address. And then they will sell it to other spammers. Do not contribute to the problem.

2. Do not use your work e-mail address on any Internet forums or discussion groups. There are great sources of information on the Internet. However, if you put your DPS e-mail address out there by asking questions, or writing articles, you are inviting spam.

3. If you ever see a message and you are not sure who it is from, do not open it. You can read the message in preview if you must confirm that it is spam. But if there is an attachment, do not open it or the message. If you are unsure what this means, please call Operations at ext. 2421, and they

can show you how to open an email in preview.

4. Not everything you receive in e-mail is true or real. Snopes.com is a great place to find out if something is true or not. If you must verify before you delete, snopes.com is a good place to start. Please, delete the mail once you have confirmed it is false. This will keep your e-mail address safe from spammers. If you do not forward it, it is not going back out there.

We are working hard to make sure SPAM does not hurt DPS. Sadly, for now at least, SPAM is an unfortunate part of life. But if we all do our part, and are informed e-mail citizens, we can surely help to reduce the amount of spam that we do have.

The author of this piece, Sloane Burwell, will be contributing articles to The Digest every other month which will address issues with DPS' e-mail system and how the system's performance can be optimized with the help of agency employees.

Adults and children should enjoy swimming pool fun cautiously

by Officer Jason Yeager

DPS Health and Wellness Coordinator

As temperatures increase, more of us will be drawn to the water ways around the state. Whether you have a pool at home or if you plan on visiting the local lakes or rivers, there are several things you should consider about water safety.

Every year, about 43,000 people are injured in and around swimming pools and more than 600 people drown at home or in public pools. Half of all pool deaths occur in the yards of single-family homes. Another article indicated that heat-related deaths occur in Arizona at rates of three to seven times the national average. It is a common misconception that water will keep you cool and hydrated. In actuality you can become just as dehydrated and put yourself at a higher risk for sun burns when involved in water activities.

It is important to watch children but even with older children and adults water accidents happen on a daily basis. Fatigue,

cramps, and other unexpected injuries can be potentially serious to swimmers of any age if they are in deep or unfamiliar waters. Just because someone knows how to swim or is utilizing floatation devices, this does not make them "drown-proof." If at all possible, try to always swim in pairs.

During the winter months, we do not pay as much attention to pool gates and the location of patio furniture. Because of the increased use in the summer we may become complacent and leave a gate unlocked or open. It is also easy to forget and leave tables or chairs near the safety barriers allowing for small children and pets to gain access to unsupervised water.

Music is always a welcome addition to any pool party or trip to the lake or river. Remember that these are still electrical devices and they should be kept away from the water or any wet surface.

Alcohol affects our judgment. It can also cause dehydration or lead to cramps and other heat-related illness. Someone who

has been drinking excessively should not be allowed to enter the water. You should also consider having a sober swimmer to supervise or monitor those who do choose to drink around water.

It is also a good idea to consider taking first aid or CPR classes. Classes are offered all over the state but you can also take an online course for around \$15. Simple first aid can make the difference in whether an accident becomes a tragedy. You can find valuable information about these topics at the following two sites:

www.acnsc.org or www.ecsinstitute.org

Another helpful reminder is to remember to stay clear of the water during rain or lightning storms.

Enjoy the summer months and all the fun water activities. Be safe and smart about your choices and never take your eyes off children.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy

Jason Yeager, #6100

602-223-2319

Immigration ...

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Dora Schriro, director of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

"This is the way government ought to work. Local, state and federal operations are coming together to make the community safer and smarter than ever before and ADC has achieved a savings of nearly \$9 million in just a first year of operation."

Under Section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Department of Homeland Security is authorized to enter into agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies allowing designated officers to perform immigration enforcement functions.

The responsibility is given provided the officers receive appropriate training and function under the supervision of ICE officers.

To date, three Arizona law enforcement agencies have signed 287 agreements with ICE – the Arizona Department of Corrections, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

The state of Arizona now has 76 officers cross-designated to enforce immigration law.

Director joins efforts to create "Investigative Exchange Program"

On Nov. 15-16, 2006, DPS Director Roger Vanderpool attended the Plenary Session of the Arizona-Mexico Commission held in Puerto Penasco, Sonora

During the Session, Vanderpool and San Luis, Sonora Police Chief Miguel Medrano discussed a future "Investigative Exchange Program" between DPS and the San Luis Sonora Police Department.

With a vision of shared responsibility, Vanderpool and Medrano both reiterated their commitment to address the challenges faced in law enforcement to prevent criminal activity that threatens the physical safety and personal property of citizens from both nations.

In December, DPS Criminal Investigations command personnel and border liaison detectives traveled to San Luis, Sonora and discussed the proposed "Investigative

Exchange Program" with Mayor Hector Espino and Medrano.

Both Espino and Medrano said they were honored and excited that DPS was considering their agency for participation in the first "Investigative Exchange Program."

Finally, on March 18, the vision Vanderpool and Medrano had had just months earlier finally became reality.

With this, San Luis Police Deputy Chief Octavo Salazar-Alonso and Patrol Supervisor Jesus Ramirez-Alfaro began two weeks of training with DPS personnel in Yuma, Phoenix and Tucson.

During the first week, the officers toured the Yuma DPS office and other local law enforcement facilities.

They also spent time riding with Highway patrol, VTI and GIITEM detectives.

During the second week, they met ex-

ecutive staff and toured the Phoenix crime lab.

The officers also spent time riding with VTI and GIITEM detectives in Phoenix and Tucson.

The Investigative Exchange Program was designed to expose DPS officers and their Sonoran counterparts to training in police operations, policies and procedures in auto theft investigations, gang enforcement and special investigations.

Cop Swap

For Sale:

2003 Dodge Dakota, V-8, 4-wheel drive, 4-door, 46,000 miles, matching leer camper, running boards, new tires.

Asking \$18,400.

Call Josh Ferguson, (623) 628-9559.



Letters

Dear Director Vanderpool:

Now that we've finally caught our breath, I want to thank you and the Department of Public Safety for the superb support you provided during our recent Torch Ride to support Special Olympics.

It would not have been possible without the services and management of DPS. I was privileged to ride at the front of the parade of motorcycles and was extremely impressed with how members of your staff were able to organize and execute traffic control to enable our riders to reach their destination safely.

The staff and management of Chester's Harley-Davidson is grateful for the turnout during this event and we know that through the contributions of your staff, the event was the most successful of its kind at our dealership.

Please pass along my thanks to all of the officers and staff who participated and made the 8th Annual Torch Ride so successful for the Special Olympians in the Valley.

**Lon Carruth, General Manager
Chester's Harley-Davidson**

Dear Director Vanderpool:

I want to express my sincerest appreciation to you and your Department for the tremendous support and assistance the entire week following the tragic death of Glendale Police Officer Anthony J. Holly.

Lt. Jim Warriner was with us at the hospital the day Officer Holly was killed, offering us support and guidance. Lt. Warriner continued to spend countless hours with us the remainder of that week in the planning for Officer Holly's memorial service. We still seek his advice, even as the weeks pass.

Lt. Larry Kenyon and Lt. Burley Copeland were instrumental in our planning meetings in preparation for the memorial service. Their expertise and leadership the day of the services were invaluable to our department.

The whole day was a tremendous trib-

ute to Officer Holly's memory and the role of Lts. Warriner, Kenyon and Copeland contributed significantly toward making it a day to be remembered by his family, our Department and the community.

Thank you again for your support and the support of your department during our time of need.

**Steve Conrad
Chief of Police,
City of Glendale**

Dear Director Vanderpool:

On Friday, April 13, I had the privilege of doing a ride-along in the East Valley with Officer Doug Jennings. As you know ADOT, DPS and the law enforcement community have been working with the legislature this session to improve the vehicle impoundment laws. My purpose for the ride-along was to get a better understanding of how the current law and process works in practice. It was extremely helpful and educational.

Thanks to Officer Jennings and his fellow officers, two impaired drivers – that I am aware of – were taken off the road during the 10-hour shift.

The individual that I witnessed Officer Jennings pull over was so impaired that he was barely able to stand up or make a coherent sentence when he was removed from his vehicle.

The reason Officer Jennings pulled this individual over was because he was driving recklessly, traveling at a high rate of speed tailgating another vehicle.

I have no doubt that had Officer Jennings not pulled this individual over and arrested him, there would have been at least one fatality that night because of this individual's irresponsible behavior.

As a husband and father, it frightened me to see first hand the extent to which a driver would allow himself to be impaired and then get behind the wheel and drive on the road that my family and I drive everyday. However, I do find comfort in knowing that there are professionals like Officer Jennings, and the officers I met in the East Valley Squad, that go out day after day and risk their lives to keep these dangerous individuals off the road.

Thank you for the opportunity to ride with Officer Jennings and I look forward to continue working with you and your agency on efforts to make Arizona highways safe.

**Kevin Biesty
ADOT Government Relations Director**

Dear Director Vanderpool:

The United States Park Police maintain a Special Protection Detail that provides protective services for the Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne. Due to the size of the detail and the amount of travel that Secretary Kempthorne conducts, it is often necessary to depend on local law enforcement agencies to help us achieve an adequate level of security for Secretary Kempthorne.

Secretary Kempthorne recently traveled to Phoenix and Scottsdale, Ariz. The security of the secretary and his movements were of prime importance to our protection detail and without the assistance of Detectives Roger Wilson and Mike Johnson of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, this mission could not have been accomplished.

I would like to commend Detectives Wilson and Johnson for their tremendous assistance. The professionalism they exhibited is a positive reflection on the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Please extend my personal thanks to Detectives Wilson and Johnson for an outstanding job.

**Michael F. Downs
Lieutenant Commander, Protection Detail**

Dear Director Vanderpool:

I wish to thank the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona for their assistance in the death of my husband, Capt. Charles E. Scott #103, of DPS, retired. The floral arrangement was so impressive and beautiful.

I also wish to thank the DPS Honor Guard for their participation at the viewing and services at the funeral and cemetery. Their presentation was acknowledged by everyone present as a true reflection on all members of DPS. Those participating were: Lt. Dan Golden, Officer Markserna, Officer Raul Garcia, Sgt. Sean Wood and Officer Pat Eagan

Thank you again for everything the Department has done for my family and me.

**Norma Scott
Mesa, AZ**

Cop Swap

For Sale:

1999 Montana 30-foot, 5th wheel trailer with two large tip outs. Arctic package; extra water heater. Excellent condition; lots of upgrades. Asking \$21,500. Contact lindajpinda@aol.com for more information and photos.

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Down the Highways

May 1967

Patrolman George Schuck was shown demonstrating the use of the Arizona Highway Patrol's new VASCAR (Visual Average Speed Computer and Recorder) speed-detection system in a photo accompanying an article in the May 22 edition of *The Arizona Republic*.

May 1972

DPS Reserve Volunteer Marion J. Hudson has saved Arizona taxpayers more than \$17,000 in 17 years with volunteer service as a reserve Highway Patrol officer.

Hudson retired the first week of May as a reserve lieutenant, *The Tucson Daily Citizen* reported May 3. "He has a way of putting the motorist's conscience to work for him," said Lt. Richard Shafer of the Tucson DPS office.

Hudson said, "It's the best hobby I could have had. I enjoyed every minute of it."

June 1977

DPS Major Phil Morgan was honored for his retirement June 30 with a party at District 5 headquarters in Phoenix.

June 30 also saw the retirements of Capt. Baldy Velasco along with Sergeants John Gantt, Charles Graham, Ralph McClellan and Gerald Mitchell.

Upon Morgan's retirement, Major Don Procnier became Central Patrol Division

commander.

May 1982

A 28-year-old former Israeli soldier was convicted May 13 in the kidnapping and aggravated assault of a DPS officer in December 1981.

A Mohave County Superior Court jury in Kingman rendered the verdict following four hours of deliberation. The jury, however, found the man innocent of a charge of unlawful use of transportation in the kidnapping of DPS Officer Claudia Schmitz. With the conviction, the man, believed to be an American citizen, faces a maximum sentence of 25 years in prison.

The suspect and a female companion were hitchhiking along U.S. 93 near Kingman, when Schmitz stopped to ask that they keep their dog off the road.

The two overpowered Schmitz when the officer was attempting to arrest the man on an outstanding warrant from New York.

The two handcuffed her and threatened to shoot her with the officer's handgun as they drove toward Hoover Dam in Schmitz' patrol car. After the vehicle stopped for a DPS road block, a DPS hostage negotiator coaxed the couple into surrendering.

June 1987

DPS Sgt. Allan Schmidt said a fiery traffic accident that killed six people June 9 on I-10 near Casa Grande appeared to have been

a "classic fatigue accident."

The six were in a station wagon that burst into flames after colliding with another car before being struck by a tractor-trailer rig.

Schmidt said, those riding in the truck and the second car were uninjured.

June 1992

DPS Commercial Vehicle Safety Specialist (CVSS) Officer David Nicely of Lake Havasu City was named Rotarian of the Year for Lake Havasu City during ceremonies June 26 at Shugrue's Restaurant.

He is the third person who has received the award. Past presidents nominate potential recipients, and the club votes on the nominees. The person who receives the most votes wins the award.

May 1997

On May 8, 1997, ceremonies were held at the DPS Headquarters Building to celebrate the opening of the Department's first Forensic Sciences Laboratory.

Some 200 DPS employees, retirees and visitors attended the dedication.

Gov. Fife Symington spoke at the ceremonies saying, "Bad guys, beware. We have the will and we have the science to find you and prosecute you. This new forensic science laboratory will go a long way toward helping us solve, prosecute and deter crime."